

REMARKS

Introduction

Claims 1-8 were pending. Claims 1, 6, and 9 are independent. Claims 9-12 have been added. Claims 1 and 6 have been amended herein.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,775,783 (Trostle).

Trostle describes a system, method and apparatus for limiting access by a user to a networked application or service. Access to network security credentials that allow a user to authenticate to application servers is accomplished by storing the user's credentials in memory that is only accessible by a local security authority (LSA). A secret associated with each credential is stored in a secret file which is accessible only by the associated user. When this secret is passed to the LSA by the user, the LSA passes back a handle to the appropriate credential, which the user can later use to obtain authentication information. Thus, to access a credential, a user must conform with the file system access control to first access the secret, then conform with the LSA access control to obtain the credential handle.

In contrast to the method described by Trostle, the claimed invention as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 6 of the present application describe a method and a system configured to execute steps of receiving a request to access a store from a first process initiated by a requester; initiating a second process responsive to said store access request, wherein data generated by said second process is accessible to said first process but inaccessible to the

requester; changing a context of said second process to the user id of said store; providing said store with an exclusive user id; said second process receiving tokenized credentials from said first process responsive to said request; said second process performing a lookup of said tokenized credentials; said second process passing a user id and password associated with said store to said first process if said tokenized credentials are recognized; communicating between said first process and said store via private communications channels, said communications channels being inaccessible to the requester; and said first process obtaining data from said store via said private communications channels responsive to said store access request using said user id and password associated with said store .

Trostle does not describe or teach that data generated by said second process is accessible to said first process but inaccessible to the requester. The random secret of Trostle can be generated by the LSA process, which is accessible through a file to the user (See column 6, lines 15-17). A credential handle is passed back from the LSA (corresponding to a second process) to the login process (corresponding to a first process) which is used by the login process to obtain authentication information from a security server (corresponding to a third process). The credential handle is then passed from the user login process to the LSA process. The LSA process then finds the credentials associated with the credential handle and then sends the credentials to the security server. Note that the credential handle is not the credentials themselves and is also distinct from the authentication information passed from the security server to the login program. The second process of the present invention does not pass back a credential handle or the credentials themselves to the user process (the first process), and a third process (the security server) passes the authentication information back to the login process,

while in the present invention, the second process sends back the direct authentication information (a user id and password associated with said data store) to the user process. Finally, Trostle is agnostic as to the nature of communication between the login process and the application client, whereas the present invention specifies that the communication channels between the first process and the data store are private communications channels which are inaccessible to the requester.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that Trostle does not disclose or teach the invention recited by amended claims 1 and 6 of the present application. Claims 2-5 ultimately depend from claim 1, and claims 7 and 8 ultimately depend from claim 6. Since claims 1 and 6 have been shown to be patentable, the claims depending therefrom are likewise deemed to be patentable, for at least the reasons described above with respect to the patentability of claims 1 and 6. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) rejection of claims 1-8.

New independent claim 9 contains all of the limitations of claim 1, with additional limitation specific to a UNIX implementation of the present invention. For instance, Trostle does not disclose executing a shell script which creates a data stream containing a tokenized user id and password, the tokenized user id and password being used as the credentials which the second process searches for in a credential store which is distinct from the store being accessed by the user process (first process). There is no mention in Trstole of creating and using a datastream to communicated between the user process and the LSA. There is no mention in Trostle of the second process (LSA) changing its use rid to an effective user id which matches the user id of the data store, said effective user id being different from said user id of the

requestor. There is no mention in Trostle of the first process (logon process) requesting data from the data store on a sending inter-process pipe and receiving the data from the data store on a separate receiving inter-process pipe.

Thus for the reasons outlined for amended independent claim 1 and the new reasons outlined for new independent claim 9, Applicants submit that Trostle does not disclose or teach the invention recited by new independent claim 9 of the present application. New claims 10-12 ultimately depend from claim 9. Since claim 9 has been shown to be patentable, the claims depending therefrom are likewise deemed to be patentable.

Thus, applicants submit that each of the claims of the present application are patentable over each of the references of record, either taken alone, or in any proposed hypothetical combination. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections to the claims is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested. No fee is believed to be due in connection with this Amendment. If, however, any fees are deemed necessary for this Amendment to be entered and considered by the Examiner, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1358. Applicant's undersigned patent agent may be reached by telephone at (973) 597-2500. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 10/25/07

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